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(12) United States Patent

Moore et al.

(10) Patent No.:

US 6,408,342 B1

(45) Date of Patent:

Jun. 18, 2002

(54) COMMUNICATIONS FRAMEWORK FOR SUPPORTING MULTIPLE SIMULTANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOLS IN A DISTRIBUTED OBJECT ENVIRONMENT

- (76) Inventors: Keith E. Moore, 3090 Mauricia Ave., Santa Clara, CA (US) 95051; Evan Kirshenbaum, 441 Bella Corte, Mountain View, CA (US) 94043
- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 42 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 08/827,213

| (22) | Filed: | Mar. 2 | 28, 1997 | | |
|------|------------|---------------------------------------|----------|-----|---------------|
| (51) | Int. Cl.7. | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | · | G06F 9/46 |
| (52) | U.S. Cl | | | 709 | /330; 709/315 |
| (58) | Field of S | earch . | | | 709/300, 301, |
| | | | | | 328, 315, 316 |

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Primary Examiner—Majid Banankhah Assistant Examiner—Sue Lao

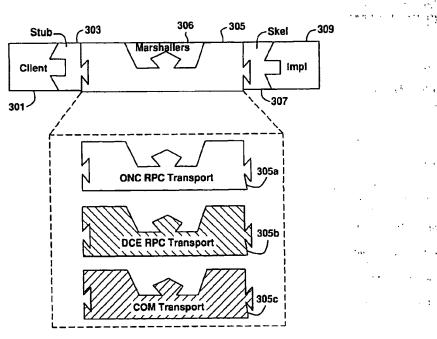
(57) ABSTRACT

BSTRACT

A communication framework supporting multiple communications protocols. The communications framework having a remote procedure call class providing an interface for an apply method, the apply method referencing a remote object, an operation to be performed, and an argument list. The communications framework also having at least one remote procedure call transport deriving from the remote procedure call class, each remote procedure call transport providing an implementation for the apply method whose interface is provided by the remote procedure call class.

Other systems and methods are disclosed.

30 Claims, 14 Drawing Sheets



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L6: Entry 3 of 7

File: USPT

Jun 18, 2002

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6408342 B1

TITLE: Communications framework for supporting multiple simultaneous communications

protocols in a distributed object environment

Detailed Description Text (236):

The communications framework creates a new ObjectReference 501 for a target object. whenever a target object is first registered with the communications framework. Optionally, the construction of the ObjectReference 501 may be delayed until it is needed, thus avoiding any unnecessary ObjectReference 501 creation. The created ObjectReference 501 is passed to other processes either by returning the ObjectReference 501 as a return parameter from a remote procedure call to another process, or by passing the ObjectReference 501 as a parameter in an outbound remote procedure call. Alternatively, the ObjectReference 501 can be made known to other processes by placing it in a shared medium, such as a shared disk file.

9. 2001

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(12) United States Patent

Moore et al.

(10) Patent No.:

US 6,189,046 B1

(45) Date of Patent:

*Feb. 13, 2001

(54) MECHANISM AND METHOD FOR MERGING CACHED LOCATION INFORMATION IN A DISTRIBUTED OBJECT ENVIRONMENT

(75) Inventors: Keith E. Moore, Santa Clara; Evan Kirshenbaum, Mountain View, both of

CA (US)

(73) Assignee: Hewlett-Packard Company, Palo Alto,

CA (US)

(*) Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR

1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

Under 35 U.S.C. 154(b), the term of this patent shall be extended for 0 days.

| (21) | Appl. | No.: | 08/828,027 |
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| (22) | Filed: | Mar. | 27, | 1997 |
|------|--------|------|-----|------|
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| (51) | Int. Cl. ⁷ | G06F | 9/54 |
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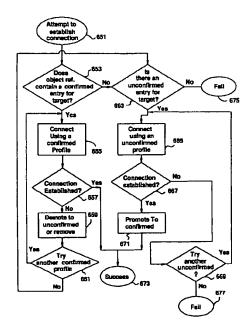
Primary Examiner—Alvin E. Oberley Assistant Examiner—Lewis A. Bullock, Jr.

57) ABSTRACT

In a method of operating a computer system having a plurality of processes, creating a plurality of object references, each object reference corresponding to a target object. The processes optionally executing on a plurality of computers connected by a network. For each object reference, creating a table of binding information hints. The table is indexed by a particular transport protocol and each entry in the table of binding information hints includes information to be used to attempt to establish a connection from the process to the target object using the indexing transport protocol. Merging the tables of binding information hints upon receiving an object reference.

Other systems and methods are disclosed.

13 Claims, 14 Drawing Sheets



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L6: Entry 7 of 7

File: USPT

Feb 13, 2001

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6189046 B1

TITLE: Mechanism and method for merging cached location information in a

distributed object environment

Detailed Description Text (164):

The communications framework creates a new ObjectReference 501 for a target object whenever a target object is first registered with the communications framework. Optionally, the construction of the ObjectReference 501 may be delayed until it is needed, thus avoiding any unnecessary ObjectReference 501 creation. The created ObjectReference 501 is passed to other processes either by returning the ObjectReference 501 as a return parameter from a remote procedure call to another process, or by passing the ObjectReference 501 as a parameter in an outbound remote procedure call. Alternatively, the ObjectReference 501 can be made known to other processes by placing it in a shared medium, such as a shared disk file.